

Message

From: Whitley, Christopher [Whitley.Christopher@epa.gov]
Sent: 1/21/2015 9:31:40 PM
To: R7 Daily Digest Group [R7_Daily_Digest_Group@epa.gov]
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 1/21/15

Importance: High

OPA Daily Digest for 1/21/15

Congressional Inquiries:

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo.) – Email – 1/20/15: Requests status update on permit application for an ethanol refinery in Mead, Neb. Due: 1/22/15. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

State Government Inquiries:

None

Press Inquiries:

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - Jacob Barker – 1/20/15: Questions regarding sulfate monitoring data from West Lake landfill off-site monitoring system. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

RadWaste Monitor – Jeremy Dillon – 1/21/15: Questions about the West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

INTV/Filmmaker Rebecca Camissa – Larissa Bills, Producer – 1/20/15: Requesting on-camera interview with Regional Administrator Karl Brooks regarding the West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Request declined. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

Environmental Stories:

St. Louis Public Radio - Low Air Pollution Risk Near West Lake Landfill, EPA Says - 1/20/15 - The underground fire at the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site does not produce air pollution that exceeds hazardous standards, the regional head of the Environmental Protection Agency said Tuesday.

<http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/low-air-pollution-risk-near-west-lake-landfill-epa-says>

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - EPA says air around Bridgeton and West Lake landfills is safe - 1/20/15 - A new study from the Environmental Protection Agency shows that the air around the Bridgeton Landfill is safe, agency officials said.

http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/epa-says-air-around-bridgeton-and-west-lake-landfills-is/article_eb0d57f2-02d5-5d23-8bc9-5fddc4dafdfb.html

Kansas City Star - Kansas City Power & Light will stop using coal at some of its generating units - 1/20/15 - Kansas City Power & Light, facing tougher environmental regulations, plans to curb its use of coal to generate electricity.

<http://www.kansascity.com/news/business/article7783470.html>

Lawrence Journal-World - Lawmakers concerned about costs of proposed Clean Power Plan - 1/20/15 - The chairman of the Kansas Senate Utilities Committee said Tuesday that lawmakers may have to decide this year whether to comply with proposed new clean-air regulations aimed at reducing carbon emissions from power plants or to fight those new rules in court.

<http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2015/jan/20/clean-power-plan-cause-exorbitant-rate-hikes-lawma/>

Waterloo Cedar Falls Courier - Pesticide drift process improvements sought - 1/20/15 - The Iowa Farmers Union and Pesticide Action Network on Monday called on the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship to improve the reporting and response process and increase penalties for damages caused by pesticide drift.

http://wccourier.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/capitol-digest-pesticide-drift-process-improvements-sought/article_a146ff4e-51f3-5e47-bfa3-190f3fff64f4.html

Scottsbluff, Neb. Star-Herald - Nebraska AG Peterson establishes agriculture bureau - 1/20/15 - Nebraska Attorney General Doug Peterson has created a stand-alone bureau in his office that will focus on agriculture, natural resources and the environment.- 1/20/15 - http://www.starherald.com/news/regional_statewide/nebraska-ag-peterson-establishes-agriculture-bureau/article_957b3a6b-1654-5507-b134-0a9e68884bfa.html

KNOP-TV, Ch. 2, North Platte, Neb. - Obama Gives State of the Union Address | Nebraska Leaders React - 1/21/15 - From promoting burdensome EPA regulations impacting all Nebraskans, to advancing a reactionary foreign policy that has shaken the faith of our allies, this administration has lost its way.
<http://www.knopnews2.com/home/headlines/Obama-Gives-State-of-the-Union-Address-289247241.html>

Oskaloosa, Iowa News - Regional Farm Show is Next Week - 1/21/15 - Another session by the Iowa Farm Bureau will look at the latest EPA regulations regarding waterways on private land. "The Iowa Farm Bureau has come out strong against the EPA's WOTUS (Waters of the US) regulations which put added burdens and limitations on even private land owners." Milledge said.
<http://oskynews.org/?p=68428>

Penn Energy - KCP&L to stop burning coal at three power plants - 1/21/15 - Kansas City Power & Light Co. (KCP&L) will no longer burn coal at three of its coal-fired power plants, Montrose Station, one of its units at Lake Road Station and two of its units at Sibley Station.
<http://www.pennenergy.com/articles/elp/2015/01/kcp-l-to-stop-burning-coal-at-three-power-plants.html>

Wyoming Business Report - Natural gas to unseat coal as generation king by 2035 - 1/21/15 - The Energy Information Administration predicts that natural gas will dethrone King Coal by 2035, and a number of market forces are at work that may assure that ascension.
<http://wyomingbusinessreport.com/natural-gas-to-unseat-coal-as-generation-king-by-2035/>

Capital Press - Case could impact dairies, livestock operations nationwide - 1/21/15 - A district court ruling this week applying RCRA regulations to manure for the first time in history has serious implications for livestock producers nationwide.
<http://www.capitalpress.com/Dairy/20150121/case-could-impact-dairies-livestock-operations-nationwide>

Dallas Morning News - Biofuels industry in regulatory gridlock as it awaits EPA ruling - 1/21/15 - Seven years ago President George W. Bush signed a law requiring that refineries blend fuels derived from corn, animal fat and plant waste into the nation's fuel supply. But the industry it spawned says it's on the verge of plant closures and layoffs if the federal government doesn't clear up uncertainty about future fuel standards.
<http://www.dallasnews.com/business/energy/20150120-biofuels-industry-in-regulatory-gridlock-as-it-awaits-epa-ruling.ece>

KMTV-TV, Ch. 3, Omaha, Neb. - RECAP: Nebraska Republican, Democratic leaders sound off during State of the Union - 1/21/15 - POTUS and EPA has fought tooth and nail against the American energy revolution. If he wants to help energy independence, sign to build Keystone XL pipeline," Synhorst wrote.
<http://www.jrn.com/kmtv/news/Nebraska-Republican-Democratic-leaders-sound-off-during-State-of-the-Union-289315951.html>

KCSR Radio, AM 610, Chadron, Neb. - Nebraska Senators React To Obama's State Of The Union Speech - 1/21/15 - The main talk around the state today is President Obama's state of the union speech last night and the reaction to it.
<http://www.chadrad.com/newsstory.cfm?story=36310>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

2/3/15 – Air and Waste Management Association – 23rd Annual Environmental Conference, Overland Park, Kan. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

2/17/14 – Agriculture Future of America's On Tap Webinar Series, Regional Office. Contact: Katie Howard, 7861

2/18/15 – Regional Tribal Operations Committee (RTOC) Meeting, Lawrence, Kan. Contact: Patrick Bustos, 7969

2/24-27/15 – Regional Administrator/Deputy Regional Administrator Meetings, San Francisco, Calif. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

3/19/14 – American Society of Environmental Historians Annual Conference, Washington D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

4/15/15 – Dole Institute of Politics – Public Service and Policy Session, Lawrence, Kan. Contact: David Bryan, 7433

DRA:

2/18/15 – Regional Tribal Operations Committee (RTOC) Meeting, Lawrence, Kan. Contact: Patrick Bustos, 7969

2/24-27/15 – Regional Administrator/Deputy Regional Administrator Meetings, San Francisco, Calif. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

None

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ

None

ENSV

None

PLMG

None

RA/OPA

None

SUPR

None

WWPD

1/26-29/15 – National Enforcement Case Development Training, Denver, Colo. Contact: Maria Morey, 7079

1/28/15 – EPA Region 7 discussion with KDHE regarding new or revised water quality standards, Topeka, Kan. Contacts: Karen Flournoy, 7782, John DeLashmit, 7821, Amy Shields, 7396

2/3-5/15 – 2014 State Revolving Fund Annual Review with Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Topeka, Kan. Contacts: Sabre Germano, 7026, Chris Simmons, 7237

2/4-6/15 – Visit water utility operator from Blair, Nebraska to work on Climate Ready Evaluation Assessment Tool Model, Omaha, Neb. Contact: Ken Deason, 7585

2/8-11/15 – 2015 Groundwater Protection Council and Underground Injection Control Conference, Austin, Tex. Contacts: David Garrett, 7159, Kurt Hildebrandt, 7413

2/10-11/15 – Drinking Water Program Coordination Meeting with Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Neftali Hernandez-Santiago, 7036

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